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ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Directors: Mrs R Smith and Mrs J Gardiner
Headteacher: Ms S Dangerfield

9th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a great Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year. Mr Ratcliffe will not be in school this half term as he is completing training at Hellesdon High School but will be returning after the break.

Again, we wanted to let you know our plans for this Half Term.

If you would like to support your child's learning at home, we thought it would be helpful for you to have a more detailed idea of what we are learning about.

Core Subjects

English GCSE and Unit Awards - Year 10 will have a taste of a mock GCSE English exam this term. In this they will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of Blood Brothers, as well as their ability to analyse the writer's craft and the impact on audiences. We studied this Literature text last term and so if you are able to support your child with some revision at home there is a link below to guide you to do this. There will also be an assessment of students' English Language skills - specifically the ability to read and write nonfiction texts.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx>

Beyond this we begin to study Macbeth using many of the same skills and really challenging students' ability to comprehend and analyse poetic and archaic language.

Maths GCSE and Entry Level Certificate

The topics students will be looking at this half term are Algebra and Probability. Homework will be set for students on a Monday and due in the following week on Wednesday. This allows students 9 evenings to complete the work. If a student has any uncertainty regarding the homework, please ask them to bring it to their next Maths class and we will support them so they are able to complete it. We are aiming to build in students' ability to work/revise independently and completing homework will help them as they continue to work towards their GCSEs at the end of Year 11.

Year 10 students will have a GCSE Maths mock in the week commencing 27/1/25. This will give students further practice in how maths questions are presented in GCSE Maths papers as well as practice with exam technique.

As well as revision resources given by the class teacher to students, additional resources, questions and quizzes are available on BBC Bitesize (see link below). BBC Bitesize is a great resource for students to refer to if they are revising at home. It offers clear explanations and worked examples of all topics within the GCSE syllabus.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z9p3mnb>

Science GCSE

This half-term Year 10 will be finishing the Organisation topic, which looks at the human digestive and circulatory systems. Year 10 will then complete their first physics topic, thinking about Energy and will then move on to study common chemical reactions in the Chemical Changes topic.

Revision resources are available on the student's google classroom page, but additional resources, questions and quizzes are available on BBC Bitesize (see link below). Students can also access revision quizzes on the website Seneca Learning and have assignments set on their class tab. Students have been shown how to access this and I would like students to be completing a minimum of 30 minutes of this per week.

BBC bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h>

Seneca learning: <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Option Subjects:

Art

In Art GCSE, year 10s will start a new project as part of their personal portfolio with the theme released in January. Students will be more confident in their approach to a theme and will critically analyse the work of other artists, recreate work in their style, create observational drawings and their own photography before developing their ideas into a final piece.

Useful website- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8nq6rd>

ASDAN Short Courses (Roadwise, Animal Care, History, Independent Living)

Students will continue to work on their chosen short course option this half term. They will complete a range of tasks and activities, submit tasks on the e-portfolio and achieve more credits.

Useful websites: <https://www.rspca.org.uk/>

Child Development

Students will continue the child development course by exploring birth and postnatal care. They will submit the first of two assignments which will count towards their final grade in year 11.

Useful websites: <https://www.nhs.uk/pregnancy/>
<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/2019-03/pregnancy%20book%20complete%20march%202019.pdf>

PSHE

This term we will continue to discuss healthy relationships and mental wellbeing in these lessons. Along the way we will complete challenges that will make up an ASDAN short course qualification by the end of year 11.

College Courses:

Catering, Construction, Hair & Beauty - will continue as usual.

Computer Science GCSE Option

This term will be learning about both local area networks and wide area networks including the internet. This includes information about how computers are identified individually across networks and how websites work.

We will also be starting to learn about simple algorithms, pseudocode and how variables are processed linked to the python computer programming language.

Practical PE

In practical PE this half term year 10 students will be learning about unihoc (indoor hockey) and key concepts of invasion games through a range of adapted and hybrid Games.

GCSE PE

Students will be continuing their classroom learning on the cardio-respiratory system and in practical lessons will continue to practice their skills in badminton and table tennis.

Drama

This half term, using set texts we will be developing our mime and improvisation skills.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do make contact.

mmartin@allsaintslessingham.co.uk

or via the school office.

Ms Martin.